1.

02-10-04

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

BECEIVED

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE der the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond

## **REQUEST** FOR **CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

**TRANSMITTAL** 

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Submission required under CFR 1.114.

Previously submitted

o a collection of information unless it di	spiays a valid OMB control number.	
Application Number	09/504,740	
Filing Date	February 16, 2000	
First Named Inventor	Takeo NISHIJIMA et al.	
Group Art Unit	2615	
Examiner Name	Christopher O. ONUAKU	
Attorney Docket Number	450100-02317	

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

	i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed onJanuary 9, 200		
(Any une	ntered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)  ii.   Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on	FEB 1 2 2004	
	iii. Other		
b.	☐ Enclosed	Technology Center 2600	
	i. Amendment/Reply	reciniology contain 2000	
	ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)		
	iv. Other		
2.	Miscellaneous	1	
. a.	Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103© for a suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(I) required)	period of months. (Period of	
Ъ.	Other		
	Fees		
3.	The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.		
a.	☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to		
	Deposit Account No. 50-0320.		
	i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)		
	ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)		
	iii. Other		
b.	Check in the amount of \$770.00 is enclosed for the following: filing fee.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)		
C.	Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (P			
Signature	Date February 9, 2004		
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37CFR 1.10			
on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.			
Name (Print/Type)			
Signature Charles Date: February 9, 2004			
"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 385415335 US			
02/11/2004 CHBUYEH 00000073 09504740			

01 FC:1801

770.00 OP